

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 FMC-04

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CG-00 COA-02 DLOS-06 PA-04

PRS-01 USIA-15 L-03 H-03 DRC-01 /076 W

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R 230940Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7662

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN

SUBJ: US-JAPAN SHIPPING MEETING OCTOBER 17-18, 1973

SUMMARY: DURING DISCUSSION OCTOBER 23, INUI (DIRECTOR, OVERSEAS DIV, SHIPPING BUREAU, MOT) TOLD EMBOFF JAPANESE SIDE WAS GENERALLY SATISFIED WITH RESULTS OF SAN CLEMENTE MEETING. END SUMMARY.

1. INUI SAID ONLY MAJOR DISAPPOINTING FEATURE OF TALKS FROM STANDPOINT OF TRANSPORT MINISTRY (MOT) WAS FACT THAT FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION (FMC) STILL APPARENTLY NOT PREPARED TO GIVE LONG-TERM APPROVAL TO JAPAN-US EAST COAST SPACE CHARTER ARRANGEMENT. ACCORDING TO INUI, MOT UNDERSTANDS FMC PROBABLY WILL APPROVE ARRANGEMENT FOR ADDITIONAL 120 DAYS FROM OCTOBER 29 WHEN CURRENT TEMPORARY APPROVAL EXPIRES. MOT ALSO UNDERSTANDS FMC WILL LATER CONSIDER APPROVING ARRANGEMENT FOR BALANCE OF FIVE YEAR TERM (I.E. FIVE YEARS FROM DATE OF ORIGINAL TEMPORARY APPROVAL) IF COMMISSION SATISFIED THAT JAPAN IS MAKING STISFACTORY PROGRESS TOWARDS ELIMINATING SHIPPING MALPRACTICES AND IMPLEMENTATION OF DUAL RATE SYSTEM.

2. INUI SAID MOT EXERTING BEST EFFORTS ON FOREGOING ISSUES. HE MENTIONED THAT MOT HAD ALREADY WARNED JAPANESE SHIPPING LINES

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ABOUT MALPRACTICES AND HAD PROPOSED THAT MAJOR LINES ADOPT A

FREIGHT POOLING ARRANGEMENT AS ONE MEANS OF AVOIDING MAL-PRACTICES. HE ADDED THAT MRS. BENTLEY HAD SUGGESTED COMPREHENSIVE SELF POLICING SYSTEM FOR PACIFIC CONFERENCES ALONG LINES OF SYSTEM ADOPTED BY NORTH ATLANTIC CONFERENCES, BUT HE SAID MOT WAS SOMEWHAT SKEPTICAL OF PRACTICABILITY OF THIS PROPOSAL SINCE THERE ARE MORE THAN TWENTY CONFERENCES IN PACIFIC TRADE COMPARED WITH ONLY SEVEN IN ATLANTIC. ON QUESTION OF DUAL RATE SYSTEM, INUI SAID IT IS MOT'S VIEW THAT IMPLEMENTATION WILL HAVE TO BE RESOLVED ESSENTIALLY ON QTE COMMERCIAL BASIS UNQTE IN CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN CONFERENCES AND COUNCIL OF ALL JAPAN EXPORTERS ASSOCIATIONS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MARINE TRANSPORTATION, MARITIME MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 OCT 1973
Decapton Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973TOKYO13733
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731016/aaaaalus.tel
Line Count: 73
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 NOV 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13-Nov-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <05 MAR 2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US-JAPAN SHIPPING MEETING OCTOBER 17-18, 1973 SUMMARY: DURING DISCUSSION OCTOBER 23, INUI (DIRECTOR, OVERSEAS
TAGS: ETRN, JA, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005